

GOVERNMENT MUST ACT WHEN INDUSTRY FAILS SAYS A. F. L. PRESIDENT

Trend Toward Socialization of Private Enterprise
is Inevitable, Declares William Green at
"New Leader" Anniversary Dinner

Holds 'Employer Terrorism, Not A. F. L. Policies, Ob-
stacle to Organization of Mass Industries—Says Gov-
ernment Ownership of Railroads is Inevitable—'Amer-
ican Labor Movement is Founded on Democracy, and Its
Members May Change Policies Whenever a Majority
Desire It.'

New York City, April 15 (I.N.S.)—When private industry fails to meet the social needs of the people, the people must turn to government for service, safety and protection," William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, told the 25th anniversary dinner of the New Leader, Socialist and Anti-War Club.

"He indeed," President Green con-
tinued, "is blind who cannot see the trend toward socialization of the in-
dustry of our government in its par-
ticipation in the affairs of private enterprise, private ownership
and private profit."

"One can see this clearly in the support which the public and public-
owned institutions give to the cause of
unemployment insurance, old-age pen-
sions, health and accident insurance,
and other social legislation."

American Labor Not Static
Democratic organization of labor, Green strongly emphasized that the
(Continued on Page 8)

**LABOR PLANKS INCLUDED IN BOTH
DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PLATFORMS
AT RECENT PRE-PRIMARY CONVENTIONS**

Outline is Similar Except That Democrats Declared for
Shorter Working Hours to Provide More Jobs for the
Unemployed—Both Parties Silent Regarding Changes
in Present Primary Law.

White organized labor did not get
all that it asked for under the two major political parties at the State con-
ventions held during the month of April.
The platform of the Democratic party
was more or less in line with what was
ognized to a greater extent than ever
before the rights of wage earners,
with an aim to end discrimination
to provide more citizens from exploitation
and to provide means for existence in
accordance with American living stan-
dards.

Both Republicans and Democratic
platforms fall into age pensions and
are to be expected to develop legisla-
tion and administration to protect
the rights of wage earners.

Both candidates are to be expected to
expel public money only to
such an extent as demonstrated to be
consistent with public welfare.

Both parties offer opportunities
for the education of the children of the State. Maine is ad-
vanced in this respect, but the other
good citizenship and the continuous
advancement of civilization.

Greater recognition of women is
proposed on motion in the State con-
ventions. This would be to be com-
plete in the Democratic Convention in
Massachusetts; adequate unemploy-
ment insurance bill, old age pension
bill, a law providing for the re-
bargaining of the Workmen's Compensation
Act, prevailing wages on
State contracts and many other
proposals.

Concerning the national agri-
cultural program, it was stated it
should not be compelled to compete
with the products of foreign soil.

**WOOLEN AND WORSTED FEDERATION
SECRETARY CALLS UPON ALL LOCALS TO
ASK SUPPORT FOR TEXTILE MEASURE**

The Blooming Bill was supported
favorably yesterday by the Labor
Committee in a revised form. Al-
though some changes have been made,
the original provisions are still there.
They are very important and beneficial to
the textile workers," said Secretary Al
Wooden, of the Federation of
Woollen and Worsted Workers, in a
letter addressed to local unions dur-
ing the week.

Blooming Bill provides for the fol-
lowing:

1. A 50-hour maximum work
week of 50 hours to be worked with a minimum
wage of \$15 weekly.

2. Sets up a National Textile Board
President and empowered to enforce the
provisions of the Act through Federal
Trade Commission practices.

3. Provides for control by en-
abling the commission to enforce shifts
of the third and second shift if
of even numbers. It provides for a
"fair minimum" with a consumer's
council "stop-gap" to protect the pub-
lic.

4. It also provides the same wages
for Southern workers as to the
New England workers.

"This last provision, alone, is very
important," writes Mr. Valentine. "We
all know now our bosses cry 'South' writing letters and telegrams."

DECLINE IN NEWSPRINT MANUFACTURING IN U. S. A. DUE TO FOREIGN IMPORTS ENDANGERS FUTURE OF BIG INDUSTRY

Drop in Tonnage in This Country From 1,684,000 in 1926
to 912,392 in 1935, is Amazing and Protection is Most
Essential for Saving the Industry From Ruin—More
Than 1,000 Maine Workers Affected by Drop in Tonnage
in Five Years, With a 45 Per Cent Reduction in
Total Payroll.

By HERBERT W. SULLIVAN, Vice President, Brotherhood of Pulp, Sul-
fur and Paper Workers, Paper Mill Workers

Floors are not the only major in-
dustry in Maine, but also should con-
cern the paper industry and also should con-
cern all the wage earners in the State
because the decline of one industry
affects all the others. The paper in-
dustry of the country was down in 1935
to a large number of mills for
several days, causing the men work-
ing in the industry to take a long
vacation. When steady operation was
beginning for the first time since
1926.

There is another angle as to what
the paper trade is facing. This is
foreign competition and the in-
ability of the workers to keep up with
the facts concerning foreign
competition. In 1935, United States
mills produced 1,684,000 tons of
newsprint, while imports were 290,000
tons. In 1935, production was
1,684,000 tons, and Maine had more
than its share. The paper in the
newspaper producing State and this
(Continued on Page 8)

200 AGENCIES SUPPLY SPIES TO ANTI-UNION EMPLOYERS

National Labor Relations Board Investigator Declares
System is Widespread in American Industry—Make At-
tractive Offers to Union Officials to Leave Town, is Part
of Evidence Submitted at Hearing.

Washington, D. C., Apr. 15 (AP)—
**Herb Blankenship, an Investigator
of the National Labor Relations Board,
told the Board at a hearing on
the use of 200 agencies to supply
spies to anti-union employers.**

He said that the use of these
agencies is widespread in American
industry, one of the concerns against
which the Amalgamated Association
of Iron and Steel workers.

The hearing was held to examine
complaints that the Amalgamated
Association of Iron and Steel
Workers had been engaged in
an anti-union campaign.

A man who identified himself as J.
T. Harris, secretary of a local
union at the Portsmouth, Ohio,
plant of the Amalgamated Association
of Iron and Steel workers, said
he was engaged in the Amalgamated
Association's unsuccessful
effort to get Harris out of town.

A man who identified himself as J.
C. Boyer, a representative of New
York hand and first approached
Harris, offering him a job. When
Harris took him out of Portsmouth, accord-
ing to Blankenship, a testimony Boyer
offered him a job in the Pittsburgh
area.

Boyer's unsuccessful
effort to get Harris out of town, Blank-
enship said, was made by W. W. Wilson,
representing the Washington newspaper
men. Harris is a newspaper
man in Washington.

Since these offers were made, Blank-
enship added, Boyer has been de-
signed as an anti-union agent by the
Tobacco general executive board.

The headquarters of the Amalgamated
Association of Iron and Steel workers
is in New York City.

**LOSSES SUFFERED BY WOOL INDUSTRY
FROM RECENT FLOODS IN NEW ENGLAND
AND PENNA. ESTIMATED AT \$2,500,000**

Losses suffered by the wool industry
through floods were estimated at
between \$2,000,000 and \$2,500,000 by
the New York Wool Trade Exchange Service.

Flame, a weekly publication of the
New England and Pennsylvania Wool
Trade Exchange, said that the
losses were due to a lack of
marketing opportunities in the
various wool markets during the
week.

The service reported that 10 mills
in Maine, 10 in New Hampshire,
Rhode Island and Connecticut were
forced to suspend production
and were unable to make deliveries.

The service reported that 10 mills
in New England and Pennsylvania
and 10 in New York were
unable to make deliveries.

Considerable quantities of
material were damaged. Most too,
had to sell off much of their
material.

"Because of the general cessation
of production, shortages of spot fabrics
are expected to develop shortly,"

JOHN L. LEWIS REPORTED AS HAVING
STARTED PLANS FOR FORMATION OF
INDUSTRIAL UNION IN NEW ENGLAND

April 20 will probably mark a vivid
chapter in organized labor and

on that date will be launched a
new effort by sponsors of the
so-called "Industrial Union" to

rip the wage wiper out the organized
craft jurisdictional lines in certain
local industries. It is possible that
the new movement will be successful.

"It can pass if we get the
united support of all and everyone. We
show our strength and our
responsible Senators and
representatives."

"We will be our reward if we
are able to show our strength, not by
being militant on the picket line, but
by enrolling the latter as a part

of the former.

It is said that already considerable
progress has been made in making
plans for the enrollment of all ga-

KEITH'S WILL SUE IN EQUITY IF CASE IS LOST IN NEXT TRIAL

Barbers Mourn Death of General President



JAMES C. SHANASSY

President Journeyman Barbers' Interna-
tional Union, whose death was
briefly chronicled in last week's La-
bor News, had occupied that office

(Continued on Page 8)

for 15 years.

Mr. Shanassy was a prominent offi-
cial of the American labor movement.

He was born in New York on July

1870. He started as a machinist

and was soon engaged in

the theatrical business.

Mr. Shanassy was engaged as a
business agent of Barbers' Local Union

402, St. Louis, Mo. in 1902 and en-
joyed the confidence of the mem-
bers.

He was chosen general organizer of the

International Union in 1922. He was

(Continued on Page 8)

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PORTLAND

NATIONAL SECURITY ACT, NEW DEAL AND CHISELING MANUFACTURERS SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION AT LOCAL C. L. U. MEETING

Talks by F. Harold DuBord, Organizers Frank P. Fenton and Norman Jeffery Keep Close Attention of Delegates

Letter Says Maine is "Hide-Out" for Chiseling Manufacturers.

F. Harold DuBord, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor, and Frank P. Fenton, New England organizer of the International Union of Painters, Lacquer, Stove Workers at the Portland April 1st meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union.

Mr. DuBord gave a broad outline of the National Security Act, stating that as the result of efforts on the part of the workers, the workers and working people will be protected not only through unemployment insurance, but through other measures.

Organizer Fenton defended the New Deal, stating that millions of wage earners in many productive industries who have been out of work for many years were benefited not only through the establishment of a minimum wage, but are enjoying a 40-hour work week.

He defended the fact that industry did not support the New Deal, and the President when the NRA was declared unconstitutional. Failure to do

this, he said, caused a tremendous increase in unemployment, which only tends to prove that depression is not over.

Gov. Brann, who spoke at the meeting, said that manufacturers, who leave their city locations to escape dealing with unions, are using these tactics.

He defended the fact that industry did not support the New Deal, and the President when the NRA was declared unconstitutional. Failure to do

this practised by subcontractors who oftentimes are not practical builders but acting as brokers who invite difficulties.

Gov. Brann is fully aware of this situation and by continuing bids, danger of getting mixed up with by night contractors will be eliminated.

Chamber of Commerce Bans Ticket Selling Over the Telephone

No more ticket selling by telephone will be permitted in Portland if action taken by the directors of the wholesale division of the Portland Chamber of Commerce will result in putting a stop to this system of ticket selling.

The action of C. C. C. was taken on complaint of several citizens who said it had been approached by telephone in a man who demanded that they buy blocks of tickets for an entertainment that was to be held for several months.

This action was taken by the Chamber of Commerce in line with the position of the Chamber Managers who for several years have disapproved of such methods.

Court Criticism O. K.'d by Judge Thaxter in Speech at Banquet

Getting far away from the old slogan that "the courts were too rigid and elevated to be criticized for anything whatever, but that they represented justice and the law," Justice Sidney St. Felix Thaxter gave expression to the new liberal viewpoint. This is all the more remarkable given the conservative nature of his standing and reputation. Far from being a radical, he is a conservative by virtue of his judicial position, the judge said, in substance.

He said that the public, too, have to have their work criticized, by citizens. Judges are human. They appreciate the friends and supporters of the cause of justice. Justice Thaxter added that the Courts may make mistakes, like any other body of men.

Justice Thaxter was speaking at a testimonial banquet tendered to him by the C. L. U. on April 6th.

The local concern was lost over on a contract to erect a dormitory building at the Augusta State Hospital for \$303,487. Mr. McPherson was given a \$1000.00 fine and suspended at the Bangor State Hospital for \$113.50.

Most of the labor troubles experienced on large building construction of late has been due to chiseling tac-

and strict integrity. Justice Brann was classed by him as one of the most able trial lawyers in Maine—an excellent preparation for the Courts he has been called to that have been greatly criticized of the Courts no longer taken as lawless or derelict.

He said that the popular mind, it marks another step away from judicial intolerance, most markedly evident in the recent decision over a reactionary bench.

Cod Aid Provided by Admir. Hopkins

A naval project announces

the WPA Administrator Harry L. Hopkins has made available \$100,000 for street improvements, \$16,300 for Pratt

the street improvements, \$4,641 for new school buildings, and \$34,000 for fire conservation.

All told, the improvements will amount to \$100,000 for 128 projects for the repair of roads, streets, bridges and other public property damaged by March flood waters.

Musicians to Be Represented by Hicks at Detroit Convention

Portland Musicians Association Local No. 864, will be represented at the convention of the American Federation of Musicians, to be held in Detroit in June. The president of the local, who is also a staff director of the WPA music and recreation project for Portland, is Charles Hicks.

He was the author of a resolution at the convention which was discussed

Member of Ry. Carmen Dies at Central Maine Hospital

The death of Samuel C. Jose, a former officer of the Railways Carmen Mechanics Union, before the strike of 1934, was reported.

Mr. Jose, who was a native of this city, was formerly employed at the Bangor Central Railroad and the Maine Central Railroad since 1922 he has been engaged in the apartment house business which his father now

He died in Central Maine General Hospital in Lewiston, where he had been under treatment for the past two years.

Manager of Printwell Company, Member of Typo. Union, Dies

Members of Portland Typewriter Union, Local No. 100,悲痛地 reported the death of William C. Dowling, who was a member of the Printwell Typing Company, having succeeded his father when the latter was named United States Collector.

The deceased was very popular, having enjoyed the confidence of all with whom he had been associated in union typists and in his organization. A delegation representing the typewriter industry attended the funeral and sent a floral tribute.

Members of Harold T. Andrews' law firm, adjourned their meeting last Thursday, May 1st, to the home of Brothman, where Mr. Andrews' services were rendered.

The funeral was held Friday morning, with interment in Calvary Cemetery.

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THEATRICAL UNIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

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"The right of the owner of a place of business, Justice Thaxter ruled in the second point, "to keep open for the free ingress and egress of persons or employees in unison with his business, is a fundamental right, or, by contract, which might place persons in fear who might patronize it or work there will be no objection."

Sign Victory for Labor

That Judge Thaxter's decision was a clear victory for labor in this true and important cause by counsel for Keith's, this to the effect the case would be taken to the Supreme Court, was met with a unanimous cheering.

Justice Thaxter ruled in the third point, "to have it kept open for the free ingress and egress of persons or employees in unison with his business, is a fundamental right, or, by contract, which might place persons in fear who might patronize it or work there will be no objection."

Another Court Upholds Peaceful Picketing

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Sec'y Ornburn Urges Formation of Union Label Leagues

(Continued from Page 1)

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NEW YORK'S HIGHEST COURT HOLDS UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT VALID

The constitutionality of the New York State Unemployment Insurance Law was upheld by the state's highest courts. New York's highest court by a five-to-two decision, "The law taxes employers to provide a fund from which the unemployed may draw benefits. It is regarded as a model for others in carrying out the provisions of the New State Constitution enacted by the United States Congress last year."

The New York law became effective January 4. It stipulates that in 1930 employers of four or more persons shall pay a tax of one per cent of the payroll. The tax is simpler than the one in effect now and has been held legally justified as constitutionally valid. "Unemployment is a peril to the state," was one of the striking pronouncements of the court.

U. T. W. OF A. ORGANIZER STATES WAGES IN SOUTHERN COTTON MILLS ARE HIGHER THAN IN NORTHERN MILLS

Says Conditions in Some Southern Districts Are Very Bad. But When Unions Are Established These Find Employers Finding Fault Because of Competition From Low-Wage Northern Mills.

Millbury, Massachusetts, April 13.—Leonard E. Johnson, organizer for the United Textile Workers of America, made an unusual speech at the monthly meeting of the Massachusetts Textile Council, held in Millbury, April 11. The speech was as follows:—

—This is the effect that cotton mill owners in the South, whose plants are not unionized, are having now—competition they are compelled to meet because of the low wages paid in cotton mills in Massachusetts, Maine and other New England states. In making this statement, Mr. Green did not want it understood that conditions in the South were not good. "Not by a long shot," he said, "as the organization is still up against a lot of opposition of sorts, and organizers will have to fight the 'chain gang' parts of the South."

He said lack of legislation, starting from the South, and the influence exercised by mill owners, makes the organization difficult to establish in these districts, a pretty severe task.

Mr. Green, who said he is under investigation to appear in court on trumped-up charges of having instigated a riot, said the party responsible for the accusation was one of several members of the organization who were compelled to testify against him through "third degree" methods, during which he was held incommunicado for 10 days on "the chain gang."

Leonard E. Johnson, lawyer for the Southern mills as they apply to working people. Organizers have referred to such accusations as being "ridiculous" after killing another man who had accused him of having turned traitor to the cause. Mr. Green said, "What Green had advised the strikers is a free-for-all fight with company thugs."

GENERAL ELECTRIC

NOW==
a G-E
Electric
Range
\$79.50
(CASH)

ENJOY at this new low price, all of these benefits of cooking ELECTRICALLY: Speed... Cleanliness, no soot or smudge-stained utensils, greasy odors to mar your walls... accurately controlled temperatures... all at the mere turning of a switch.

This Springtime while other changes are being made to brighten up your kitchen, have YOUR electric range installed.

Come in... and see this new model.

CENTRAL MAINE
POWER COMPANY

Cumberland County Power and Light Co.

Can be purchased on convenient
payments of
\$5 DOWN
\$2.45 monthly

THE MAINE STATE LABOR NEWS, APRIL, 1930

300 DELEGATES

Woolen and Worsted Delegates on
TO PASSAIC, N. J., FOR CONVENTION OF
FEDERATION ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Expected 300 Locals Will be Represented by More Than
300 Delegates—Banquet in Ritz Hotel Ballroom on Sat-
urday Evening—Vice President Horace A. Riviere to Be
Guest Speaker.

Providence, R. I., April 12.—Woolen and Worsted Fed.-rat in America, affiliated with the United Textile Workers of America for the special constitutional convention to be held Saturday and Sunday, April 25-26, in Passaic, N. J. The Ritz Hotel will be the convention hall.

It is not known at this time who will be the chairman of the convention, but it is expected to be Vice President Anthony A. Valente and Senator Edward J. Tessier of Massachusetts, and other State and national leaders.

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The Labor News

Official Newspaper of the

MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

Published Monthly by

THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

Under Supervision of Jean D'Avignon, Frank C. McDonald, Clarence R. Burgess, Charles Melville, Committee, P. O. Box 24, Augusta, Me.

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An Expression of a Square Deal for Both Sides, Constructive in Policy. Independent in Politics.

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APRIL 1936

Would a Labor Party Prove Helpful?

Are the Workers of This Country Sufficiently Interested and Prepared Financially, to Successfully Carry On a Party of Their Own?

It is not so many years ago, only a short time before he died, that Samuel Gompers declared himself as unalterably opposed to the formation of a Labor Party.

According to Mr. Gompers, the several attempts made by organized Labor in the past half-century to carry on a political party of its own, or line up with other groups, had caused severe setbacks to the Labor movement, from which it took years to recover.

Belief entertained that times have changed considerably during the past decade, and that workers now feel altogether different from a political point of view, we are inclined to question.

The writer well recalls the belief expressed by leaders who were most enthusiastic for a Labor Party a quarter of a century ago, and finds little change in sentiment today, except possibly by large groups of workers employed in mass production industries, whose leaders feel that organized Labor will never come into its own until it declares for independence on the political as well as economic field.

Those who favor a Labor Party argue the non-partisan, political policy of the A. F. of L. has served its purpose, and that changing times—due to drastic changes in production—necessitate direct action to enable Labor to overcome the tremendous power and influence controlled by organized industry.

Adherents of the A. F. of L. policy, however, contend the rank and file of working people are not only still too greatly tied to party lines to become seriously interested in a third party, but that the task is a colossal one—that it would cost a tremendous amount of money, and that the risk of losing what ground has been gained through the non-partisan policy is such that the progress of Labor would be greatly retarded as a result.

It is argued that, unlike England, France and other European countries where the native language is spoken by everyone, and where all are conversant with the ways and customs of the government, a Labor Party can be more effective than in this country, with its 35 different nationalities, many of whom do not speak the language of the country, and who are comparatively ignorant of the possibilities of success under our present form of government.

It is contended that under our present system, working people have it in their power to control the municipal, State and Federal governments. Why, then, go to the trouble and expense of forming an independent political party, when the workers—if they will use their voting power—are able to do this?

It may be true that, if charged with the responsibility of sponsoring an independent political party, greater activities may result in increased interest, and that in time great numbers of working people will be induced to become part of the political movement.

It must be remembered, however, that most interested in an independent political movement are people who are not to be classed as working people. They include persons in all walks of life, and while well intentioned, their ideas often clash with those of the workers, and hence the possibility of discord, with resulting failure.

Men and women who have never had to suffer the trials of arduous labor in factory, shop, mine, or construction work or road building, or at any occupation where long and tedious hours at starvation wages brought them bare existence, do not

think along the same lines as do working people. They are a fine lot of citizens, and seem bent on doing what they can toward alleviating the conditions of workers, but their general training and occupations—whether it be professional, business, or clerical—is such as to make it difficult for them to thoroughly understand the aims, objects and aspirations of those whose entire lives have been spent in producing.

The late Mr. Gompers once said that while Labor greatly appreciates the sympathy and kindly feeling expressed by these good friends, Labor must be left to work out its destinies in its own way.

The question is a serious one and must be given deep consideration by all who are called upon to make a decision when the question is put before them for action, which may be very soon, as will be the case in Massachusetts, where a referendum is to be taken on May 29th.

One must weigh the question from all angles, and give paramount consideration as to whether or not Labor will benefit by the adoption of a political party of its own.

Think it over!

WHY NOT REAL FLOOD CONTROL?

Disastrous floods in the eastern States have again focused public attention on flood prevention and control.

A business publication, citing Mississippi floods from the time of De Soto to the present, asks why are great floods still possible after centuries of experience? The question is heard after every big flood.

There is only one answer to the question. The people of the United States have not gone about the business of flood control and prevention on a scale sufficiently large. Army engineers say floods can be curbed, if not entirely prevented. Yet the nation, despite large sums of money on attempts to harness the Mississippi and other rivers, has tackled the flood problem in a half-hearted manner which has not done away with the flood danger.

Here is a national task that will give work to the unemployed for years to come and that will be of incalculable benefit as long as the nation endures. There is the money, the equipment, the ability and intelligence to successfully solve the problem. Nothing seems lacking but the will.

Knox Is For Balancing the Budget

How Can This Be Done With the Government Spending Billions in Production, Clothing and Housing for 12,500,000 Unemployed? The Department Aspirant for Presidency's Line Is Just "Old Stuff!"

While Editor Knox, Governor Landon and Senator Borah, candidates for the Republican nomination for President, and former President Hoover, Alice Roosevelt Longworth and highly-paid propagandists are lambasting President Roosevelt and the New Deal, comes the news that the textile industry which was "in the dumps" in 1932, not only showed a 100 per cent increase in 1935 over the production of that year, but a 20 per cent increase over 1934.

According to "The Rayon Organon", published by Textile Economics Bureau, Inc., the total production of textiles in 1932 amounted to \$474,500,000; in 1934, the total had risen to \$819,500,000, and in 1935, it amounted to \$894,000,000, or \$169,000,000 over 1934, and was more than double the total production in 1932.

We've heard a lot about increased production of automobiles, steel, leather and shoes and other major industries through government statistics, but not until now has there been much said regarding textiles, which according to this authentic source has made as good, if not a better record than other industries, as it brings production on a greater basis than at any time since 1929.

How these would-be aspirants for the Presidency and professional political and newspaper propagandists expect to make the great masses of working people believe their fairy tales against the New Deal in the face of such progress as is being made, is something that causes fair-minded people to wonder if their talk isn't all ballyhoo and uttered for no other than selfish and political purposes?

How, for instance, is it possible to balance the Federal budget when 12,500,000 unemployed and their dependents must be fed, clothed and housed?

Colonel Knox, in his recent radio address in Chicago, declared the problem of taking care of the unemployed should be performed by communities.

Does the Colonel recall conditions existing in his own city a few years ago, when it became necessary to borrow millions from the Government with which to pay Chicago school teachers and other city employees, some of whom had not received any salaries for more than a year?

It was evident from his talk that, if elected, he would recommend the stoppage

of the vast amount of money now expended for relief. If this, so would mean that the citizens of Maine would be taxed extra millions yearly for taking care of those who, with WPA, PWA and other New Deal plans discontinued, would be placed at the mercy of Welfare Departments for support.

It is claimed the work this local unemployed army is doing is unnecessary. The P. O. P. spellbinders and Liberty Leaguers claim this is a colossal waste of the people's money; but fail to offer any remedy, except possibly they are of the opinion local authorities would be more rigid in the distribution of funds, and treating the unemployed as "lazy bums", would tell them to go and find a job.

"Kill the New Deal at any cost," seems to be the one argument advanced by its opponents. The fact that the textile and other industries have almost reached peak production, is given no consideration. They aver this is a natural growth and would have come without the New Deal.

What a nonsensical monstrosity this aggregation is attempting to put over in their desperate efforts to fool the electorate. Will they succeed? Not if we, the judge by the sentiment expressed by the large number of working people it is our pleasure to come in contact with.

Textile Manufacturers and the Ellenbogen Bill

Opposition Offered for Stabilizing Industry Meets Opposition From Many Who Had Hoped This Could Be Accomplished.

In drafting the Ellenbogen bill, or that which is known as the National Textile Act, hopes had been entertained that this would meet with favor from a goodly number of large textile manufacturers who, on various occasions, expressed hope the carpet in a complaint charging misrepresentation in the sale of an encyclopedia. A wholesale confectionery association was charged with "conspiracies to fix prices and obstruct commerce in the candy trade."

Among these manufacturers were some whose complaints were directed against competitors, who not only disregarded all rules concerning production, sales and distribution, but who are unmerciful as regards wages and general working conditions of their employees.

Except during the World War period, when prices were stabilized, when help was scarce, and when orders came faster than they could be filled, the industry from time immemorial has been in a "demoralized state." Although affiliated with a national organization, little was accomplished through this to stabilize the industry. Attempts to do so failed because that portion of the membership regarded as chislers were opposed to the adoption of measures which interfered with their methods of production, sales and distribution.

A manufacturer who is friendly to labor unions, told the writer some time ago that he felt certain leading New England manufacturers were ready to cooperate if plans formulated by the union could be made acceptable. He favored fair minimum wages, regulation of machine load, and other fair working conditions. This was prior to the general strike in the industry, when a comprehensive schedule which was not only submitted to all manufacturers but to members of the executive board of their national organization.

Except for a few manufacturers who commanded the plan, and expressed willingness to go along with the union, it was ignored by the majority, and declared impracticable by the National Association.

The general strike followed, and while this resulted in unionizing a goodly number of mills, and which made possible better wages and improved working conditions, it did not accomplish all that had been anticipated—namely, that of bringing about complete unionization with consequent stabilization of the industry.

A great opportunity was lost when those manufacturers who did not combine and force their national association to take favorable action. It was a golden moment for the future of the industry, but unfortunately, and what is thought to have been fear of offending manufacturers in industries, who for the most part are dead-set against dealing collectively with unions, they failed to grasp the importance of this cooperative spirit manifested by the union.

And now, another opportunity is offered. This time, through the passage of the National Textile Act. There is nothing drastic in this measure that calls for opposition, except from those who are decidedly opposed to any proposition emanating from trade unions. Its main purpose is to stabilize the industry through governmental authority. Its adoption would mean the establishment of minimum wage scales that would compel every manufacturer to observe. It would do just what legitimate manufacturers have been hoping for these many years—that of bringing

chiselers in the industry to their knees.

Through the NRA and the general strike, a good start was made—but more is needed as there still remains a sufficient number of "scabs" in the industry to cause legitimate manufacturers to suffer frequent headaches.

In a recent talk with a manufacturer, a suggestion that owners gather and discuss the Ellenbogen bill, was favorably received. We suggest this again. It is just what they have been seeking as a means for stabilizing the industry, and who knows but that such a conference might bring about good results.

Unfair Practices Galore in Business

Recent Report by State Trade Commission Shows All Kinds of Rackets Performed Places Large Concerns in "Racket" Class—Low Pay and Long Hours Not Considered as Unfair Trade Practice.

One of the major functions of the Federal Trade Commission is to prevent business concerns from using "unfair practices" in the competitive field—practices which not only make it difficult for legitimate business to carry on but also defraud consumers.

A part of a recent week's schedule of cases heard by the Commission illustrates the various types of business rackets which come before it.

A silk company was charged with "unfair competition in the use of a lottery scheme." A dispensary supply company was required to answer to the complaint of "unfair competition in the sale of a medicinal preparation for treating over-weight." Misleading representation of the use of the word "university" was charged in a complaint against a business diversity. A publishing company was put in the carpet in a complaint charging misrepresentation in the sale of an encyclopedia. A wholesale confectionery association was charged with "conspiracies to fix prices and obstruct commerce in the candy trade."

A China company was charged with "unfair competition in the sale of chinaware and other pottery." And, finally, a building material dealers' alliance was charged with forming a combination to compel distributors of building materials through "recognized" dealers affiliated with the alliance, and "fixing and establishing by agreement schedules of uniform prices for the sale of building materials and builders' supplies," which is held to be in violation of the Trade Commission Act.

Up to date, the Commission has not considered long hours and low wages as unfair trade practices. Such a rule has the endorsement of the Council for Industrial Progress, headed by Major George L. Berry, Industrial Coordinator. The Council recommends listing as unfair-practices the "employment of workers in excess of the average hours of work prevailing in the industry, or hourly wages substantially less than similar types of employment paid in such industry."

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A Big Banker Sees the Light

Russell C. Leffingwell, who was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury during the Roosevelt administration, is a member of the House of Morgan. But despite that affiliation he refuses to submit to the nation the notion of proposed changes in the existing order of things.

In an address before the American Institute of Political Science in New York, Leffingwell approved the action of the Roosevelt administration in taking the Roosevelt administration's proposed "government aid on a vast scale," and made light of the suggestion that Uncle Sam's new end be balanced under existing conditions.

"A private business man may, if unrestrained by motives of kindness, be inclined to do what is right, but his fire and his fear as he pleases, raise prices and reduce expenses, curtail his business or wait it out. If it runs at a loss, he may close it down."

"Government cannot do it. Government must keep its own house in order, and its budget in order, by enriching its people, not by impoverishing them."

"The government cannot balance its budget by edict. It cannot extract blood from a stone nor gain revenues by robbing the people. It can only do this by creating a new tax."

"Nowhere is there organized labor, agrees with Mr. Leffingwell. As organized labor has so often said, 'We are the backbone of the business and the people of this country are back at work and earning adequate incomes—and not before.'

The Rural Worker

The recent speech of labor and management officials at Washington was a turning point in the history of agricultural labor.

"The producers of our country's food learn to live by forming strong unions; they could become one of the most powerful labor groups in the United States."

Nothing that government representatives said was of any positive help. Agricultural workers realized that Washington, like our own, themselves, could bring about better conditions.

"We, the workers, forget those with whom our families, constitute nearly 25 million people? Didn't they think of them when the Wagner Labor Relations Bill and Social Security Act were drafted?"

"Perhaps they were looked upon as the 'old fogies'—old and out of date."

"May I fear of 1936?" asked the government from representing millions of men, women and children in "the new labor market."

"If these who represent one-sixth of the country's population organize and make themselves strong, the government can't forget them. That is another important lesson learned by farm labor delegates in Washington."

Get Another Job Is An Old Gag!

(The Cleveland Citizen)

Roger W. Babson, chief big business oracle, announces as follows in a recent speech:

"I am not in favor of giving advice on the tongue of these alleged labor leaders. Authorities cheer up, and the public should be told that nothing will turn up in the long run." A pretty darn long run it will be for millions seeking the elusive other job, and the goal is not yet in sight.

No. Carolina Judge Restraints Labor Relations Board

Greensboro, N. C., April 15. (UPI)—Judge Johnson J. Hayes, in the United States District Court here, issued a temporary injunction restraining the National Labor Relations Board from holding a hearing at Concord, N. C., on the charge that the Cannon Mills has discriminated against 24 Negro employees in its hiring and promotion affiliation. The complaint was filed by Local 1902, of the United Textile Workers of America.

Judge Hayes, after a full day of argument by opposing counsel, as to his right to restrain the board from holding the hearing, delayed his decision until May 8, and instructed counsel for both sides to present adequate briefs.

Labor Foes Have Same Contributors

Out in the possession of the U. S. Senate Labor Committee report that several of the groups most emphatic in their opposition to labor and progressive legislation, enacted by Congress during the last three years have gotten their financial support from an almost identical list of large contributors.

Investigator said this was revealed by an extended examination of the financial sources of 20 or 25 prominent business and labor organizations, among them the American Legion, the Sentinels of the Republic, the Crusaders, and the Southern Committee to uphold the Constitution. The organizations are most violent in their attacks on such constructive legislation as the National Recovery Act, the Guffey Coal Stabilization Bill, and the National Labor Relations Act.

